

R E M A R K S

Election of one of the species has been required from among the patentably distinct species described in the Action as follows:

- > N,N'-bromochloro-5,5-dialkylhydantoin (Claims 5, 11, 20, 35);
- > bromide and alkali metal or alkaline earth metal hypohalite (Claims 6, 12, 21, 36);
- > halogen stabilizer, bromine source and alkali metal or alkaline earth metal base (Claims 7, 13, 22, 37).

Applicant respectfully traverses this requirement. The filing fee paid in this application includes money for conducting a search of reasonable scope. As stated in 37 CFR 1.104(a)(1):

On taking up an application for examination . . . the examiner **shall make a thorough study thereof and shall make a thorough investigation** of the available prior art relating to the subject matter of the claimed invention. **The examination shall be complete with respect** both to compliance of the application . . . with the applicable statutes and rules **to the patentability of the invention as claimed**, as well as with respect to matters of form, unless otherwise indicated.

[Emphasis added]

With all due respect, an examination of all three of the species, muchless only one of the species, does not appear to comply with the requirements of "a thorough study" or "a thorough investigation" or an examination that is "complete", all as set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations, and as paid for on behalf of the Applicant. Further, it is Applicant's understanding that electronic searching capabilities have been made available to the Examining Corps for search purposes and thus laborious, time-consuming manual searching is no longer required.

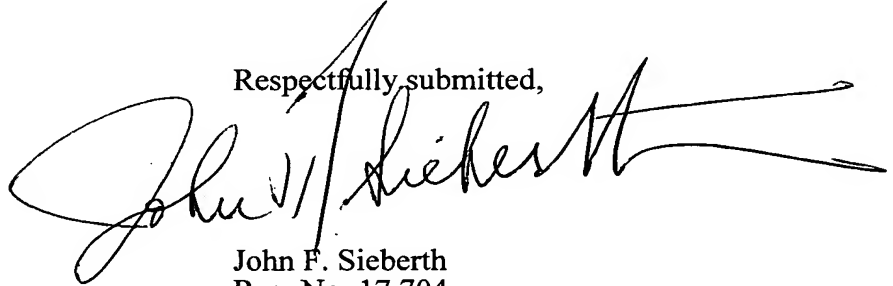
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for election of a single species and in addition, an examination on the merits of the 37 claims in the case.

In order to be fully responsive, Applicant provisionally elects with traverse the species of halogen stabilizer, bromine source and alkali metal or alkaline earth metal base (Claims 7, 13, 22, 37). The claims readable on this species are Claims 1-4, 7-10, 13-19, 22-28, 29 (in part), 30 (in part), 31-34, 37.

Favorable Action is solicited. If matters remain requiring further consideration that may be expedited by discussion, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the number given below so that such matters may be discussed and, if possible, promptly resolved.

Please continue to address correspondence in this application to Mr. Spielman at the address of record.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Sieberth", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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